the Jews to Palestine. About 1880, Laurence Oliphant, actuated by religious and philanthropic motives, tried to obtain the Sultan's permission for the Jews to settle in Palestine, while he himself, from Haifa, assisted them in their first efforts at colonization.

British public opinion was prepared for the acceptance of the Palestine Mandate by the British Government. In 1920 Sir Herbert Samuel, who was friendly to Zionism, was appointed High Commissioner of Palestine, which post he held till 1925. During the War a railway connexion had been established with Egypt, and during his period of administration the post and communications were improved, the equalization of Hebrew with Arabic and English, as prescribed by the Mandate, was put into practice, reforms of customs and taxation were begun, sanitation, afforestation, and land registration were organized on a modern basis, and legislation adapted to new requirements. Thanks to an ordered administration ensuring general security, to the introduction of education for the Arabs, and to a fairer system of taxation, and in consequence of a strong influx of Jewish capital, a considerable advance was achieved in the cultural and economic development of the country. In 1927 a Palestine currency was established, and a loan of £4,500,000 was floated for public works, especially for Haifa harbour. Towns and large villages were granted municipal

autonomy. In 1922 a plan for a Legislative Council failed owing to Arab opposition to the proposed number of official members on it.

The relations between Arabs and Jews, satisfactory enough before the War, have since become far less friendly. In 1921 and 1929 serious conflicts broke out between them, during which several hundred Jews and Arabs lost their lives. After the troubles of 1929, which had their origin in a dispute about the right of the Jews to pray at the Wailing Wall, the British Government dispatched the Shaw Commission, and Sir John Hope Simpson to Palestine to investigate the grievances of Jews and Arabs. Their reports